

Amendment No. 2 to SB2221

Lundberg
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2221*

House Bill No. 2253

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-3-306, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(i)

(1) An LEA shall classify school nurses employed by the LEA as licensed personnel for purposes of this section and shall compensate school nurses according to the salary schedule adopted by the LEA for licensed personnel for the respective school year. This subsection (i) does not limit or restrict an LEA's ability to contract with the Tennessee public school nurse program, created by § 68-1-1201, for the provision of school health services, or to set the terms of such a contract, including the compensation for a school nurse. This subsection (i) does not apply to compensation paid to contractors of the LEA.

(2)

(A) School nurses must receive the same base salary, for the respective school year, as that established for licensed teachers with a bachelor's degree and zero (0) years of experience, if the school nurse:

(i) Is an employee of the LEA;

(ii) Holds a valid license to practice professional nursing as a registered nurse; and

(iii) Has zero (0) years of experience.

(B) School nurses employed by the LEA who have more training and experience than the training and experience identified in subdivision (i)(2)(A) must receive more than the base salary per school year.

(C) School nurses employed by the LEA who have less training and experience than the training and experience identified in subdivision (i)(2)(A) must receive less than the base salary per school year.

(3) A salary schedule adopted pursuant to subdivision (a)(1) shall not result in the reduction of the salary of a school nurse employed by the LEA at the time of the adoption of the salary schedule.

(4) An LEA may submit to the commissioner its own proposed salary schedule in accordance with subsection (a) that sets a base salary, and the salary for each step or level above the base salary, in an amount that exceeds the corresponding salary amount set in the state salary schedule for the respective school year. This subdivision (i)(4) does not prohibit an LEA from increasing the salaries of the LEA's employees, including, but not limited to, school nurses, at any time during the school year if, in so doing, the LEA's local board of education does not exceed its budget as adopted or amended.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to the 2022-2023 school year and each school year thereafter.